

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS18823

This resolution sets forth the nature of the emergency confronting Idaho in the form of Zebra and Quagga mussels. Further, the Resolution declares that such an emergency exists and that deficiency warrants, as authorized by the Idaho Invasive Species Act of 2008, be used proactively by the Department of Agriculture. The resolution sets forth limitations and scope in the use of emergency deficiency warrants.

FISCAL NOTE

Legislation in 2009 will provide for an ongoing source of aquatic invasive species revenue through watercraft registrations. In the Idaho Invasive Species Act of 2008 a cap was placed on expenditures through the use of emergency warrants. Should expenditures through deficiency warrants prove necessary the amount is indeterminate. The maximum allowed under the Act is five million dollars. The cost to the general fund and local jurisdictions will exceed 90 million dollars annually if the mussels invade.

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